

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph on page 15, line 20 of the Specification with the following paragraph:

Also, a ratio (Φ_{bN}/D_p) of a diameter (Φ_{bN}) of the balls to a dimension (D_p) of an outer/inner PCD, which represents the outer PCD and the inner PCD that are equal to each other, is preferably set in a range of $0.2 \leq (\Phi_{bN}/D_p) \leq 0.5$. If the dimensional ratio (Φ_{bN}/D_p) is less than 0.2, then the diameter of the balls is too small, resulting in a reduction in the mechanical strength thereof. If the dimensional ratio (Φ_{bN}/D_p) is in excess of 0.5, then the balls are so large that the wall thickness of the outer member is relatively small, resulting in a reduction in the mechanical strength thereof.

Please replace the paragraph on page 16, line 15 of the Specification with the following paragraph:

The ratio (D_p/D) of the dimension (D_p) of the outer/inner PCD, which represents the outer PCD and the inner PCD that are equal to each other, to the diameter (D) of the inner-ring serrated-region inside-diameter surface on the inner wall of the inner ring is preferably set in a range of $1.9 \leq (D_p/D) \leq 2.2$, the ratio (Φ_{bN}/D_p) of the diameter (Φ_{bN}) of the balls to the dimension (D_p) of the outer/inner PCD, which represents the outer PCD and the inner PCD that are equal to each other, is preferably set in a range of $0.2 \leq$

$(\Phi N/D_p) \leq 0.5$, and the ratio (D_o/D_p) of the outside diameter (D_o) of the outer member to the dimension (D_p) of the outer/inner PCD, which represents the outer PCD and the inner PCD that are equal to each other, is preferably set in a range of $1.4 \leq (D_o/D_p) \leq 1.8$.

Please replace the paragraph on page 20, line 1 of the Specification with the following paragraph:

FIG. 15 is an enlarged fragmentary longitudinal cross-sectional view of the constant-velocity joint, showing a shaft serrated-region diameter (D), an outer/inner PCD (D_p), an outer cup outside diameter (D_o), and a ball diameter (ΦN);

Please replace the paragraph on page 30, line 5 of the Specification with the following paragraph:

FIG. 5 shows in enlarged fragmentary longitudinal cross section the constant-velocity joint 10 according to the embodiment. As shown in FIG. 5, the ratio V of the diameter N to the offset distance T is set to satisfy the range of $0.12 \leq V \leq 0.14$, thereby making an offset distance $T1'$ small. FIG. 6 shows in enlarged fragmentary longitudinal cross section of a constant-velocity joint 100 according to a comparative example. As shown in FIG. 6, an offset distance $T2'$ of the constant-velocity joint 100 is larger than the offset distance $T1'$ of the constant-velocity joint 10 ($T1' < T2'$).

Please replace the paragraph on page 38, line 9 of the Specification with the following paragraph:

As shown in FIG. 19, the diameter of the balls 28 is established based on a characteristic linear curve Q representing the relationship between the outer/inner PCD (D_p) and the diameter of the balls 28. If the diameter of the balls 28 is represented by Φ_{bN} as shown in FIGS. 14 and 15, then the dimensional ratio (Φ_{bN}/D_p) of the diameter (Φ_{bN}) of the balls 28 to the outer/inner PCD (D_p) should preferably be set to a value in the range of $0.2 \leq (\Phi_{bN}/D_p) \leq 0.5$.

Please replace the paragraph on page 38, line 18 of the Specification with the following paragraph:

If the dimensional ratio (Φ_{bN}/D_p) is less than 0.2, then the diameter of the balls 28 is too small, resulting in a reduction in the mechanical strength thereof. If the dimensional ratio (Φ_{bN}/D_p) is in excess of 0.5, then the balls 28 are so large that the wall thickness of the outer cup 16 is relatively small, resulting in a reduction in the mechanical strength thereof. The diameters of the spherical outer and inner surfaces 38a, 38b of the retainer 38, which retains the balls 28, are set to values depending on the layout thereof.

Please replace the paragraph on page 40, line 6 of the Specification with the following paragraph:

As shown in FIG. 22, each of the retaining windows 36 has an opening length (WL) in the circumferential direction of the retainer 38. The ratio (WL/N) of the opening length (WL) to the diameter (N) of the balls 28 is set to a value in the range of $1.30 \leq WL/N \leq 1.42$. Each of the retaining windows 36 has corners 36a each having a radius R_w of curvature. The ratio (R/N) of the radius R_w of curvature to the diameter (N) of the balls 28 is set to a value in the range of $0.23 \leq R/N \leq 0.45$.

Please replace the paragraph on page 42, line 2 of the Specification with the following paragraph:

As shown in FIG. 23, illustrate an alternative embodiment of a constant velocity joint 10' with similar features as those illustrated in Figures 1-22, except for each of the first guide grooves 26a through 26f and the second guide grooves 32a through 32f has only a curved region extending in the longitudinal direction thereof.